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All letters recommending candidates for office must be paid for to insure their publication.

Resolutions of respect to deceased members passed by societies, corporations, associations, or other organizations will be invariably charged for as advertising matter.

All communications of every character should be addressed to "THE FREE LANCE," Fredericksburg, Va.

Weather forecast for Fredericksburg and vicinity.

Fair and cooler Thursday, fresh northerly winds.

It will be noticed from our local columns that Thursday, September 23 of our fair week has been dedicated to the Confederate soldiers. All the veterans of this section are expected and will be welcomed. Special arrangements will, however, be made for a reunion of the 30th Va. Regiment, Infantry, 9th Va. Cavalry and Braxton's Artillery. There will be, we hear, no formal services or ceremonies, only a general hand shaking and mingling of the boys who wore the gray. The hallowed associations, the holy scenes of that never to be forgotten past compressed within the period from 1861-'65 should never be forgotten—and it is the purpose of these reunions to keep them ever fresh and green. We trust "our boys" will come out in large numbers, meet and mingle together—talk of "the battles the bivouac and the march," and again live over a life, around which clings and clusters so many and sacred things; that will be friendly, come then Old Vet—remember the day, Thursday, September 23rd. Come from Tidewater, Piedmont, Virginia—and tent once again on the old camp ground.

One by one they rob poor old Virginia of all her honors, all her glories. Massachusetts has been her chief depredator, striving to take from her the credit of "starting the ball of the Revolution," and of promulgating the first Bill of Rights, and earliest pronouncements for civil and constitutional liberty. But it was supposed that the evasive Bay State would at least leave undisturbed the claim of the Old Dominion to the invention or discovery of the mint jolly. But not so. Now comes along a native of Massachusetts, writing in the Chicago Inter-Ocean, saying that in the memoirs of Jeremy Lane, of Salem, Massachusetts, in 1649 mention is made of a drink compounded of "mint herb and heating spirits, which is gratifying to the palate when cooled in a stone jug at the spring," while the Boston Gazette of August 17, 1697, contains a local item in which occurs the statement that the "drowned man was known to have drunk several goblets of a mixture composed of Hollands flavored with mint before he fell off the wharf, which should be an example to those who have lately formed the habit of imbibing with two much frequency what the publicans and tavern-keepers call mint dew."

Well, we are never to get credit for our good deeds in this wicked world. In the happy hunting ground of the hereafter it will not be denied that old Virginia leads the van in the number of those who have found their passports to that elysium through the instrumentality of the fragrant weed.

It is very common to meet in newspapers the statement that the undertaking of the seceding States to set up a Southern Confederacy was a visionary dream, which no sane man ought to have believed possible; and even so intelligent a man as Thomas Nelson Page, in his delightful novel, "Red Rock," makes the assertion that the struggle of the South was "hopeless from the beginning." The Free Lance is among those who under the providential teachings of the past thirty years have come to believe that the disruption of the Union would have been a misfortune to the people of the South, as well as to the people of the North. But for all that the undoubted fact of history is that the result of the great conflict was in doubt up to the closing scene around Petersburg. The contemporaneous surrender of Vicksburg in the West, and the repulse at Gettysburg in the East may be said to have decided the fate of war against the South, but so far from the struggle being "hopeless from the beginning," there was at the beginning, in the belief of thousands of intelligent persons, a strong prospect, a preponderant prospect of success to the seceding movement. Even Horace Greeley, probably the most influential man in all the North in building up the anti-

slavery sentiment, which culminated in secession, believed at "the beginning" not only that the South would succeed, but that it ought to succeed, and that it should not be coerced, for he uttered the memorable expression: "Erring sisters, go in peace." And as to the abolition of slavery being a sine qua non with the people of the North, at the beginning of hostilities, both houses of Congress, and Mr. Lincoln, and the Supreme Court have left the indelible record of their solemn belief that there was no constitutional authority for coercing a sovereign State to remain in the Union.

But this is now a closed chapter in the history of our re-united country. Nevertheless, the veritable facts of authentic history ought not to be perverted.

Among the writers on the editorial staff of the Washington Times is one who possesses a bright, breezy facility for expressing himself in a flippant, jaunty style upon almost every subject, from grave to gay; from the transient theme of the hour to the most momentous questions that can engage and enthrall the mind and soul of a rational creature. If it be a question of fashion or etiquette, he is happily at home in its discussion. If it be a matter of intricate diplomacy, or constitutional construction, the Gordian knot of it he will untie familiar as his garter. If it be a question of religion or theology, however deep or solemn, it is trippingly disposed of on the point of his pen as if he were born and bred among the schools of the prophets at Jericho or Gilgal. A day or two since this polychrome pen espoused the proposal to erect a monument to Robert Ingersoll, and proceeded to deride the objections to such a scheme as if they were the crude murmurings of a kindergarten on a Sunday. A few passages from this article will suffice to show the scolding arrogance of the writer. Here are some specimen paragraphs:

It may be well to explain just what this monument would mean to those who shall contribute to the fund for its erection.

Ingersoll did his best to sweep away what he considered superstition, that something else might arise in its place.

There is no denying that for a good many hundred years men have acted as if it were much more important to adhere to some particular creed than to behave decently to their fellow-men and this fallacy Ingersoll attacked so vigorously that he made it ridiculous, and it is disappearing from American society with considerable rapidity.

There comes a time in the life of nearly every thinking man when he questions the dogmas to which he has been brought up. Many such men have decided, sadly, it may be, but inevitably, that they cannot believe these dogmas. They have been taught that there is no morality outside some particular creed; that it is of no use to set up one's own ideal and strive to fulfill it; and that all scientific knowledge fails when it comes to deal with man's soul.

In this time of chaos and indecision, Ingersoll gives the doubter a hearty grasp of the hand and assures him that he will be all right if he goes manfully to work to make the best of himself, that there can be no divine law which will contradict itself and interfere with facts, and that if there be a God, reason is the guide which he has given man to lead him in the right path.

Now, there you have it. The creed and the catechism we were taught at our mother's knee and in the Sunday School and in the sanctuary are mere "superstition." A time arrives in the experience of "every thinking man" when he mistrusts the "dogmas" of religion he was taught in childhood. In this time of "chaos and indecision" Ingersoll steps up, takes the bewildered individual by the hand and leads him out into the clear light of that "scientific knowledge" which alone can deal with the questions that concern "man's soul;" and teaches him that "if there be a God reason is the guide he has given man to lead him in the right path." It is by no means certain that that there is a God; but if there be a one he has given us a guide to lead us in the right path. According to the old time dogmas and catechisms the "Scriptures of the Old and New Testament" constitute, that guide. But Ingersoll comes along and scatters to the wind this idle superstition, and in place of the Bible sets up "Reason" as the infallible guide. Get Tom Paine's "Age of Reason" and burn up your mother's Bible. Put your dependence for the present time and for all eternity, not in the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, but in Ingersoll's god, the human reason; not in the precepts and promises of the Holy Scriptures, but in that slough of despond known as agnosticism. This is the sacrilegious and flippant folly that is sought to be palmed off for erudition and wisdom.

The Boston Transcript says: "The Floral Emblem Society of Massachusetts sent out a short time ago letters to the Governors of the various States and Territories asking if their State had adopted a State floral emblem. The various replies show that ten of the States have adopted floral emblems, and we allude to them as follows: Colorado, blue and white columbine, 1890; Delaware, peach blossom; Maine, pine cone and tassel, 1895; Michigan, apple blossom, 1897; Montana, yellow rose, 1895; Nebraska, goldenrod, 1895; Oklahoma, mistletoe, 1893; Oregon, Oregon grape, 1899; Utah, sage lily, 1892; Vermont, red clover, 1894.

Seven of the remaining States have flowers that are popularly recognized as State emblems, although there has been no special legislation in the matter: California, California poppy; Georgia, Cherokee rose; Idaho, syringa; Kansas, sunflower; Minnesota, mosses flower; Nevada, sagebrush, Washington, rhododendron. The trailing arbutus is by informal adoption the floral emblem of Nova Scotia.

The idea of a State or National flower is as old as the lotus of Egypt, and we all identify the rose with England, the lily with France, the shield-

with Scotland, the shamrock with Ireland."

The Free Lance suggests that this is a matter that might well be considered by the next General Assembly and it hopes that bachelor J. F. Ryan, of Loudoun, will take it up in the House, and that widower Senator Capt. S. R. Donahoe will look after it in the Senate. Why shouldn't Virginia have a State floral emblem?

Can't some of our readers suggest what such an emblem for the Old Dominion should be?

MR. ELLYSON RETURNS FROM EUROPE.

Meeting of the State Democratic Committee—Baptist Conference With the

Richmond, Va., Sept. 20.—The State Democratic committee will meet at the Jefferson Hotel here Thursday, September 23. The call was issued by Chairman J. Taylor Elyson yesterday morning immediately upon his return from Europe. There are no special matters demanding attention, but Mr. Elyson thought it best to call the body together without delay and let the whole situation be reviewed and map out plans for the campaign.

At the last Southern Baptist convention Mr. Elyson was appointed a delegate to represent the convention at a conference of representatives of the Baptists of America and England to be held in London. The object of the conference was to bring to the attention of the Baptists of the United States the fact that the Baptists of America and England are called in the empire. The representative of the Northern Baptists was Rev. George O. Lorimer, D. D., pastor of Tremont Temple, Boston.

Mr. Elyson and Dr. Lorimer met the English delegates, and the matter was gone over carefully, but it was found inexpedient at the time to arrange for an audience with the Emperor and the matter was postponed until the late spring or summer of next year. Mr. Elyson will doubtless attend the next meeting.

Great Land Case Decided.

Richmond, Va., Sept. 20.—The case involving the ownership of over 500,000 acres of valuable land in the counties of Mingo, McDowell and Logan, West Virginia, and in Buchanan county, Virginia, which has been on trial in the United States Court at Abingdon, was decided yesterday. The site of nearly the entire town of Williamson, W. Va., was involved in the suit, and thousands of acres of the land are occupied by descendants of original settlers or innocent purchasers. A small part of the land is also across the line over the Kentucky border.

The suit was brought by Hon. Henry O. King, as trustee for heirs of creditors of Gen. James Swann, who was a member of the House of Burgesses in Virginia and a hero of the War of the Revolution, although his residence before the breaking out of the Revolution was in Boston, where he was a rich merchant.

Mr. King won the case, which was against James Grant and others. Should the decision be sustained by the Supreme Court of the United States, a great many families will be dispossessed.

The pain of a burn or scald is almost instantly relieved by applying Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It also heals the injured parts more quickly than any other treatment, and without the burn is very severe, does not leave a scar. For sale by M. M. Lewis, druggist.

Confederate Veterans.

Captain John J. Williams, of Winchester, grand commander of the Grand Camp Confederate Veterans, department of Virginia, has issued orders to the commanders of the various camps in the State, calling attention to the next regular meeting of the grand camp which will be held at Palaski, on October 11, 12 and 13. The order also calls attention to the assessment of five cents per member on all members of camps to be levied for expenses of the Grand Camp. Two of the most prominent matters to come before the Grand Camp are the school history question and the proper care of the indigent veterans.

The James Breathed Camp, of Palaski, are making extensive arrangements to entertain visitors, and a cordial welcome will greet all who attend.

No Right to Ugliness.

The woman who is lovely in face, form and temper has no days to spare. But one who would be attractive must keep her health. If she is weak, sickly and all run down, she will be nervous and irritable. If she has constipation or kidney trouble, her impure blood will cause pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. Electric Bitters is the best medicine in the world to regulate stomach, liver and kidneys and to purify the blood. It gives strong nerves, bright eyes, smooth, velvety skin, rick complexion. It will make a good-looking, charming woman of a run-down invalid. Only 50 cents at M. M. Lewis' Drug Store.

The Guns Not Needed.

Richmond, Va., Sept. 19.—Mayor Spillman, of Warrenton, has telegraphed Adjutant-General Nalle that it will not be necessary to ship him the 100 guns requested, as the Butler Colored Zouaves, of Warrenton, have determined to abandon their purpose to celebrate the thirty-sixth anniversary of the emancipation proclamation at Warrenton on Friday. The Adjutant-General had prepared the arms for shipment this morning.

Col. Milley Died at Manila.

Lieut. Col. John D. Milley, inspector general of volunteers, formerly on Gen. Shafter's staff, died Tuesday at Manila. The information reached the War Department in a cablegram from Gen. Otis. His death was due to cerebral meningitis, attendant on typhoid fever. Col. Milley's rank in the regular army was first lieutenant, Second Artillery.

Dr. Cady's Condition Powders, are just what a horse needs when in bad condition. Tonic, blood purifier and vermifuge. They are not food but medicine and the best in use to put a horse in prime condition. Price 25 cents per package. For sale by M. M. Lewis.

Ex-Senator Butler on the Negro Problem.

Greenville, S. C., Sept. 20.—Ex-Senator M. O. Butler, of this State, in reply to certain questions recently asked him by a New York man on the race question in the South, says he believes the Government should provide a place of emigration for the negroes. He says:

"To my mind it behooves the Government of the United States to carry out the proposition of President Lincoln and provide a home in Central or South America or elsewhere where the negro may be induced to emigrate and set up for himself.

"It will be infinitely better for the negro, who can never reach the full measure of American manhood and citizenship with his environments of race prejudice and ostracism in this country.

"Race prejudice is not confined to the white man and negro. It is as strong and intense between the white man and Indian or Chinaman, or any colored race. The most advanced stages of civilization do not appear to eradicate it—Christianity does not and cannot. The only refuge for the weaker race is in exodus, perpetual subordination to the stronger, or in extermination."

His Life Was Saved.

Mr. J. E. Lilly, a prominent citizen of Hannibal, Mo., lately had a wonderful deliverance from a frightful death. In telling of it he says: "I was taken with typhoid fever that ran into pneumonia. My lungs became hardened. I was so weak I couldn't even sit up in bed. Nothing helped me. I expected to soon die of consumption, when I heard of Dr. King's New Discovery. One bottle gave great relief. I continued to use it, and now am well and strong. I can't say too much in its praise." This marvelous medicine is the surest and quickest cure in the world for all throat and lung trouble. Regular size 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at M. M. Lewis' Drug Store; every bottle guaranteed.

Shooting Affray.

Monday afternoon a serious difficulty occurred in Charlottesville, in which three persons, Charles E. Joseph, a merchant, of Batesville, and Officers I. S. Hall and E. E. Stratton, of the Charlottesville police force, were wounded, two of them seriously.

A fourth bullet struck Mr. Fox, of Yancy's Mill, but it did no harm. Officer Hall, it is alleged, has been in the habit of visiting a young woman in the Albemarle Telephone Exchange during business hours. This the superintendent, J. Frank Kelley, objected to and ordered Hall out of the place. Hall slapped Kelley. Later in the day Kelley and Mr. Joseph were driving down Main street, when Hall arrested the former, who, however, did not stop until he had killed Kelley. The officer then assaulted Kelley, striking him several times in the face. Joseph took the reins from Kelley and started the horse with a view of separating the combatants. Kelley then drew his pistol and began shooting, his first bullet striking Hall in the shoulder and inflicting a serious wound. Officer Stratton, who was hurrying to the scene, was struck in the wrist by the second bullet, a flesh wound resulting. Hall returned the fire, missing his aim, and seriously wounding Mr. Joseph near the head. Kelley was arrested and was admitted to bail in \$1,000.

For Over Fifty Years.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pains, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

Sovereign Grand Lodge Will Meet in Richmond.

Detroit, Mich., Sept. 20.—The Sovereign Grand Lodge of Odd-Fellows, at its session yesterday chose Richmond, Va., as the place of meeting in 1900. Baltimore was also a candidate for the honor.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio presented the Sovereign Grand Lodge yesterday with a case which has a strong sentimental interest for Odd-Fellows. It belonged to Thomas Wildey, the founder of the order in this country.

Grand-Sire Pinkerton was yesterday evening presented by the Richmond lodges with a magnificent bouquet of Virginia roses, consisting of seventy-five white roses, one for each birthday of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, and thirteen red ones, for the thirteen original States of which Virginia and Massachusetts formed important parts.

The International Yacht Races.

The first race for the American cup between Columbia and Shamrock will be sailed on Tuesday, October 3, and the course will be 15 miles to windward or leeward and return, the course being, as nearly as possible, 30 nautical miles in length. The second race is set for Saturday, October 7, when the course will be over an equilateral triangle, 10 miles to a leg. Other races will follow on Tuesdays and Saturdays until one boat has won three times, all races starting and finishing at Sandy Hook lightship. The match to be decided by best three out of five races.

The competing yachts shall be measured with all of the weights, dead and alive, on board which they intend to carry during a race, but shall not have on board more persons, all told, during any race, than three for every five feet of racing length or fraction thereof. Waste or water tanks, if carried, must be filled with water at the time of measurement.

Bismarck's Iron Nerve.

Was the result of his splendid health. Indomitable will and tremendous energy are not found where Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, and Bowels are out of order. If you want these qualities and the success they bring, use Dr. King's New Life Pills. They develop every power of brain and body. Only 25c at M. M. Lewis' drug store.

Governor Tyler has appointed H. A. W. Sken, as County Judge of Wise, to succeed Judge W. T. Miller, of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit. This appointment only holds until the Legislature meets.

POLITICAL.

A Warm Meeting in Lancaster.

Warsaw, Va., Sept. 19.—Fully 500 Democrats of Lancaster county assembled in mass-meeting at their court house yesterday to reorganize the party. The meeting was called to order by W. M. D. Lee, the county chairman, and Warner Hall was chosen permanent presiding officer by the county committee. A motion by Mr. Lee, that the committee of the several magisterial districts be elected in mass-meeting, was carried by a vote of 294 to 190. Dr. F. W. Lewis and his followers opposed this motion, and withdrew from the meeting, as they were in favor of the precincts retiring and electing their respective members of the committee. The Lee faction ratified the nomination of Thomas Pinckard, a Martin man, as their candidate for the House of Delegates from the counties of Lancaster and Richmond. They also passed resolutions endorsing the candidacy of Hon. Thomas S. Martin for United States Senator. Mr. Lee was unanimously re-elected county chairman by this election, whilst the Lewis faction elected A. J. S. Martin for the same office. The meeting will long be remembered as the warmest of its kind ever held at Lancaster Court House. The opposing factions fought bitterly, and several altercations were narrowly averted.

A Split in Warren County.

Front Royal, Va., Sept. 19.—The Tyler wing of the Democratic party of this county met in the court house yesterday an organized independent county committee. About 50 people were present. The regular Democrats and Senator Martin's friends did not participate. Brackett, the independent candidate, was endorsed.

Fairfax Republicans Will Not Run a Candidate.

Fairfax County, Va., Sept. 19.—The Republicans of Fairfax county met in convention here yesterday, every district but Mount Vernon being represented. J. M. Thorne, of Falls Church, presided, and Sam Fitzhugh, of Burke's Station, was elected secretary.

The advisability of placing a candidate in the field for the State Legislature was discussed at length, and it was decided not to do so, thus accepting the recommendation of the State committee. A resolution was also adopted advising all Republicans of the county to remain away from the polls on election day and not vote for the Democratic nominees, as by so doing they emphasized their disapproval of the Walton election law.

Married a Woman His Testimony Once Condemned.

Charlotte, Mich., Sept. 19.—Mrs. Mary Brooks, the first woman ever received at Jackson State Prison, has been married to D. H. Stuart, who was complaining witness against her, and who was largely responsible for her conviction.

In March, 1876, Mr. Brooks, a wealthy farmer, died suddenly under suspicious circumstances. His wife was arrested the following day on complaint of Mr. Stuart and convicted after a short trial, the evidence being conclusive that she poisoned her husband, giving him arsenic in his food.

Stuart, the complaining witness, headed a petition for pardon, which was secured after the woman had served 24 years.

Yellow Fever Alarms Health Authorities.

Key West, Fla., Sept. 19.—Thirty-one new cases of yellow fever were reported in the past 24 hours and one death.

Washington, Sept. 19.—The yellow fever situation at Key West is regarded as grave. Since the first case was reported, about three weeks ago, the epidemic has been steadily growing, until today there are nearly 400 cases. New cases are appearing at the rate of about 30 a day but the mortality is low.

As Key West is situated below the frost line, the epidemic will have to run its course. The Marine Hospital service has been directing its efforts to confining the epidemic to the island and has been rewarded with signal success.

Tetter, Salt—Rheum and Eczema.

The intense itching and smarting incident to these diseases, is instantly allayed by applying Chamberlain's Eye and Skin Ointment. Many very bad cases have been permanently cured by it. It is equally efficient for itching piles and a favorite remedy for sore nipples, chapped hands, chilblains, frost bites and chronic sore eyes, 25c. per box. For sale by M. M. Lewis.

Spanish American Islands.

A Filipino officer has proposed to General Otis to begin negotiations for the release of American prisoners.

The United States gunboat Paragua had a sharp engagement with Intrenchad Filipinos at San Fabian, Luzon, driving them from their fortifications.

Col. Charles H. Denby, one of the United States Philippine Commissioners, has sailed from Manila for this country.

An attempt was made to mob ten Spaniards at Pavia, a suburb of Havana.

Dreyfus Pardoned.

Captain Dreyfus was pardoned Tuesday and it is said, will be released from prison today. Dreyfus has withdrawn his appeal to the Council of Revision. He, however, still has the right to appeal to the Court of Cassation to have the judgment of the Rennes court-martial set aside and his innocence proclaimed.

Admiral Schley called on President McKinley and notified him that he would accept the command of the South Atlantic Station. The Admiral may be given the cruiser Brooklyn for flagship.

An effort will be made at Front Royal next Saturday by the Washington city members of Mosby's command, to have the next reunion in Washington, and the following members have been selected to present the claims of that city: R. M. Hanover, M. M. Marmaduke, Durand Shackelford, Dr. Samuel Waggaman, George Turberville, A. M. Newell, Hugh Waters, Sergt. David G. Mohler, Lieut. Boyd Smith, Capt. E. F. Thompson.

Volcanic Eruptions.

Are grand, but Skin Eruptions rob life of joy. Bucklen's Arnica Salve, cures them; also Old, Ranning and Fever Sores, Ulcers, Boils, Felons, Corns, Warts, Oils, Bruises, Burns, Scalds, Chapped Hands, Chills, and all eruptions on earth. Drives out Pains and Aches. Only 25c. a box. Cure guaranteed. Sold by M. M. Lewis, Druggist.

French Bonnets to Be Boycotted to Show Sympathy With Dreyfus.

New York, Sept. 19.—Echoes of the Dreyfus case have reached the solitude of Mount Lebanon, N. Y., and from the Shaker Sisters there comes a "plea for Dreyfus," of which the following is a part:

"Let us rise up en masse and with tongues of fire and voices of thunder proclaim our detestation of the whole affair. Let it be done in a practical way."

"How? Men have sneered: 'Woman may sacrifice her life for principle, but never a bonnet.' Now is the time for an answer. Let the women of America, in union with their sisters of England—such an Anglo-Saxon alliance as God must bless—pledge themselves to follow no French fashions, buy no French fabrics and refrain as one from attendance at the Paris Exposition of 1900, unless this crime against honor and justice, against humanity, is wiped out by complete vindication of Dreyfus."

Southern Freight Office at Culpeper Robbed.

Thieves entered the Southern Railway freight office at Culpeper early Tuesday morning, and rifled the cash drawer and tore open the correspondence desk, but only secured \$1.30 in nickels and pennies, left in the drawer for change. The thieves were frightened off by the night watchman making his rounds. They did not secure a pouch secreted in another part of the depot containing about \$500. Receipts of freight and guano have been very heavy for the past ten days, and it was generally known the company had collected a large sum of money from that source, and it is supposed it was this money the thieves were after.

Ready to Argue the Carter Case.

Washington, Sept. 20.—Wayne MacVough, counsel for Capt. O. M. Carter, of the Engineer Corps, arrived in Washington last night. "I am only four days back from Europe," he said, "and have come to Washington to put myself at the disposal of the Attorney-General to argue the Carter case on whatever date may suit his convenience. The time at which the case is taken up will depend entirely on him." Captain Carter was convicted of misappropriating Government funds and sentenced to dismissal from the army and imprisonment.

Chicago Will Be Democratic Headquarters.

Chicago, September 20.—Chicago will be the working center of the Democratic National Committee during the campaign in preparation for the next Presidential election. This was decided at a meeting of the Executive Committee held here, thus definitely settling rumors that the headquarters would be changed. J. G. Johnson, of Kansas, it was decided, will have charge of the work, remaining here in charge of the headquarters office.

Howard Owens Pronounced Insane.

Warrenton, Va., September 20.—Mr. Howard Owens, alias F. O. Ward, who was recently bailed by his father here, was pronounced insane yesterday by a number of physicians, and will probably be taken to an asylum in the near future.

Li Hung Chang In Power—Great Loss of Life.

Victoria, B. C., Sept. 19.—Mail advices from the Orient state that Li Hung Chang has been recalled to power.

The Empress Dowager of China is said to be seriously ill.

Over 3,000 persons are dead and missing as a result of a recent typhoon in Japan. Great damage to shipping is reported.

Lawrence Gardner Dead.

Washington, D. C., September 20.—Lawrence Gardner, the Democratic national committeeman for the District of Columbia, died here this morning. His death was due to a complication of dropsy and heart trouble. He was well known to Democratic politicians, being secretary of the National Association of Clubs, and for several terms of the Democratic Congressional Committee. He was a man of excellent executive ability. He leaves a widow and two adopted daughters, both married.

The International Council of Congregational Churches met in Boston yesterday.

James Helmer, aged 17 years, was crushed to death in an ore bank in Rockbridge county, Va.

Bishop Leighton Coleman, of Delaware, has returned from a 230-mile tramp in the Virginia mountains.

One thousand head of cattle and over 500,000 bushels of grain are exported weekly from Newport News, Va.

Mayor Jones, of Toledo, Tuesday addressed the League of American Municipalities, in session at Syracuse, N. Y., on "The New Patriotism—the Golden Rule in Government."

A test at Indian Head of armor made by the Krupp process showed that it was superior to the Harvey plates. Admiral O'Neill will recommend its use by the Government.

The navy is feeling the advance in the cost of steel, and it is learned, the Government may find it impossible to secure bids for new warships unless the price of steel is reduced.

Commissioner of Agriculture Koiner thinks this is the year for Virginia apples. He has received information that the output of one orchard, in Albemarle, has been sold for \$10,000. That of another in Frederick county, was sold for \$27,000. The apple crop was almost a failure in every State, save Virginia where the French raised about all the apples grown in Europe. As a result, prices are very high.

The Alexandria Light Infantry, was mustered into the militia service of the state of Virginia Monday night by Col. Jo Lane Stern, and it is expected that the men will be supplied with uniforms and equipments within the next two weeks. The commissioned officers of the company are: Captain, James E. King; First Lieutenant, P. J. Murphy; Second Lieutenant, R. W. Payne.

Dress Goods, SILKS, WRAPS. C. W. JONES,

having taking the lead in Dry Goods retailing, is always FIRST to show the novelties, always buying early, thus securing choice styles. Country Merchants, studying their business interest, realize that they must have choice styles and good quality. Why not see our stock?

BLACK CREPONS were good last spring; but a hundred percent more popular this fall. We are showing a beautiful selection of these deservingly popular fabrics.

SILKS were never better, and the latest can be seen on our counters now. Make selections while you have the full line to select from.

Colored Dress Goods Broadcloths, Venetians, Homespuns, Cheviots, Scotch Plaids and Black Fabrics are recognized